

Mississippians find ministry in Mexico

By Lettie McNeece

How does a child, a teen, or an adult who speaks little if any Spanish go about ministering to people in an impoverished area of Mexico?

This is something 77 individuals learned on a mission trip in June. What began as a trip sponsored by two small Delta churches — Parks, Glendora, and Calvary, Parchman — grew into several days as missionaries in the Rio Grande Valley area of Mexico.

Church, Batesville, led the medical team.

Charles Jones of Friendship Church and Jim Harmon of Calvary Church led construction teams.

Rick Milan of Calvary Church organized the transportation. Young, a bivocational Spanish teacher, preached and directed VBS.

In addition to several language translators and medical professionals such as doctors, pharmacists, and nurses, the mission group was composed of children, youth, and adults who knew very little if any Spanish.

They learned, however there were many ways they could minister to the people spiritual-

ly and physically.

The children and youth were instrumental to the group. Through the dirt streets of Mexican neighborhoods, their puppet parades with festive Christian music sung in Spanish brought the sick out of their houses and into the medical clinics, and the children into VBS.

At VBS, children and teens demonstrated to the Mexican children what adults were teaching. They also introduced them to bubbles, Koolaid, and crayons — things many of them had never seen before — and used these to introduce them to a knowledge of Jesus.

Adults untrained in medicine and unskilled in the Spanish language learned they could assist the missionaries and minister to churches by wielding paint brushes, hammers, and saws. At VBS they could also pass out cookies and literature, and use their

warm smiles and a few Spanish phrases to encourage the children.

Directly from the mission group's work came 19 professions of faith. Indirectly their work helped to generate another 60 professions of faith under the leadership of the Mississippi College School of Nursing.

The mission group alone staffed four clinics, each held daily in different locations. During the clinics, 254 patients were treated and 87 eye exams given with many pairs of glasses fitted.

In addition, the group helped staff three other clinics and provided medicine and materials for many other clinics. The group also distributed dozens of health care kits.

At four different locations, 280 children were reached and materials and literature were provided for more schools. Hundreds of Spanish tracts and over 100 New Testaments were distributed.

Some of the men had a major part in construction of a pastor's home at Maranatha Church in Satelite, a suburb of Reynosa, a city of 300,000 people. The mission group left behind enough money for the Maranatha Church to have electricity turned on for the first time since it was built and wired two years ago.

wired two years ago.

Other men built a 32-by-45foot roof addition on the Mount
of Olives Church in Reynosa
while some of the women and
youth painted the parsonage
and all of the church's new
two-story educational facility
inside and out. The mission
group also left behind enough

money to buy all of the doors and windows for the educational facility.

For the Grace and Faith Mission, which has been meeting in a home, the group left behind money for the ministry's building fund.

In addition to working to pay their own way, many in the group helped raise about \$8,000 to buy the construction material and medicine to use in Mexico.

With the Mississippi College School of Nursing, the group filled an 18-wheeler with medicine, good used clothing, toys, and furniture that was shipped free to Mexico one week before the group arrived.

The mission group stayed in bunk houses at Valley Baptist Retreat in Mission, Texas, which also provided meals.

In all, participants represented 17 churches, which included Paynes, Paul, Spring Hill, and Cowart, all in Tallahatchie County; First and North Batesville, both in Batesville; Bethany in Saltillo; Bett in Tate County; Pleasant Grove in Grenada County; First Methodist in Collierville, Tenn.; Bethel Methodist in Tallahatchie County; Grace in Tuscaloosa, Ala.; and Alfa and Omega in San Juan, Texas.

Omega in San Juan, Texas.

This was the third annual trip to Mexico for Parks and Calvary. Since it has grown so large, plans have been made for groups to go at different times. Two groups plan December trips, three groups plan June trips, and others are still making plans.

McNeese is a member of Friendship Church, Grenada, and a participant in the mission trip.

Looking back



Doris Hodges (left), member of Friendship Church, Grenada, shares Vacation Bible School material with children living on the Mexico side of the Rio Grande River, during a Mississippi-based, multi-church mission trip to the area earlier this year. (Special photo)

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WHAT'S IN THE RECORD

Garaywa ledge update

Burned churches rebuild

Gambling's high price

Missionaries return home

Bad news

the project.

There they staffed medical

clinics, taught Vacation Bible School (VBS), did construction

work, and preached.
Joe Young, pastor of Parks

and Calvary, and a long-time organizer of mission teams, led

Leading 28 of the particiants from Friendship

Church, Grenada, was Guy

Hughes, pastor. Physician Ed Steward of North Batesville

More than a third of Americans in a recent multi-racial survey said outright that they believe the news media protray religious people untairly. The Pew Research Center's national survey of 2,000 adults indicated that discontent with news organizations among evangelical Christians ranks at 50%, while dissatisfaction among the subgroup of white evangelical Christians was even higher at 58%. "Christian media have large audiences — 45% say they tune in to religious programs on radio or TV and 45% listen to religious music. A 57% majority of those 50 years of age and older use Christian broadcast media," reported the authors of the survey. Among the findings in the survey's final report.

— African-American and white exangelical Christians, by a mai gin of three to one, believe it is permissible for churches to b involved in politics. In addition, 20% of those surveyed reported the their clergy actively speak out on political issues and candidates.

— The Republican Party is perceived to be the party most concerned with religious values, especially among white exangelical Christians (56%) and to a lesser but measurable extent among African-American Christians (34%)

10 0000 000

The three-year-old Sunday School class at McDowell Road Church in Jackson sees for themselves the miracle of God's natural world when their single tiny sweet potato seed, planted outside the church, grows to more than sixty feet in length.

20 years ago

James L. Sullivan, president of the Southern Baptist Convention and a native of Tylertown, accepts invitations to speak at the Attala Association annual meeting in Kosciusko and at Mississippi College in Clinton during homecoming festivities.

50 years ago

After years of hard work, Mississippi Baptist Hospital in Jackson dedicates a new 100-bed, air -conditioned addition and surgical wing — completed despite continuous shortages of building materials during and since the end of the WW II.

EDITOR'S *<u>NOTEBOOK</u>*





William H. Perkins Ir. Editor

Welcome to the new 'Baptist Record' This week marks the first edition of the first major redesign of "The Baptist Record" in more than fifty years. We hope you like it.

This redesign is the result of many prayers; four-and-a-half years of listening to what readers need from "The Baptist Record;" studying modern newspaper design; and blending all those efforts as concepts took shape on paper over

the past three months.

That involved a lot of intense, focused work — while continuing to meet ongoing production deadlines for each weekly edition of "The Baptist Record." It was like trying to change a flat tire at 70 miles an hour!

Uncounted hours were spent by the editorial staff of this newspaper in researching how to bring you the best possible product. Many ideas were proposed; most have been incorporated. Among the features included in this redesign:

◆ a new font (typeface) that fea-tures improved kerning (spacing between characters) and leading (spacing between lines). Many readers who wear bifocals and trifocals asked us to increase the readibility of the text, so we did.

more "white space" on each page and innovative ways of using it for better

A wide, white margin along the outside edge of pages each week will include the plan of salvation, smaller news items, photos and cutlines, policy statements, etc.

 folding the paper in a new way and relocating the mailing label to allow the top of the front page to be seen first, instead of the bottom of the back page.

Newspapers sold from news stands and street racks are always folded that way to draw attention to the publication.

 new page one and page three flags (newspaper name, date, volume, and number) to support the new fold in drawing

attention to the paper.

It's no secret that hurried people — and who isn't these days — have time to read only the things that catch their eye.

relocation of the folio (date and page number) from the top of each page to the bottom of the page. This simple change shifts news stories higher on the page for more visibility.

 spot color, another effort to draw attention to the newspaper and the impor-tant articles contained inside. Spot color also results in a fresher, more modern appearance.

 lining photos and using drop shadows (the offset black boxes directly behind the photos) to ensure the page has "depth" and doesn't look so one-dimensional.

 new reverse headings (white characters on a dark background) for standard features such as "Names in the News," "Revival Dates," and "Just for the Record."
This also adds depth to the page.
The editorial staff has also adopted a

number of transparent changes that won't always be as immediately visible as the changes listed above, including:

tighter, more precise writing to make maximum use of available text space. Nothing is more boring than an article that

should have ended ten paragraphs back.

• more graphics and bullet boxes (summarized articles.) "Don't tell readers with text what you can tell them in a graph," is a maxim that "USA Today" has developed to great success.

fewer jumps, where space runs out and an article is continued on another page. Jumps are somesn't disunavoidable

but will be kept to a experience,

serial articles to more deeply explore complex issues. An increase is planned in



the number of series consisting of two or more weekly installments.

 an effort to get readers involved in the issues covered in an article. Where applicable, each article will contain a name, address, and telephone number to obtain more information.

In addition, the newspaper's staff is cur-rently working on a set of guiding princi-ples based on "The Baptist Faith and Message" and the responsibilities given to "The Baptist Record" in the Constitution of

the Mississippi Baptist Convention.
That will be no small feat, but we think it's important.

Let us hear from you. We welcome your advice, comments, and opinions. After all, this is your newspaper.

We want this newspaper to be the best it can possibly be in service to our Lord and Savior, and in our effort to win Mississippi and the world to Jesus.

We earnestly seek your continued prayers and support as we strive to fulfill

EDITOR William H. Perkins Jr.

ASSOCIATE EDITOR Carl M. White

EDITORIAL ASSOCIATE Florence Larrimore

CIRCULATION MANAGER Renee Walley

> **BOOKKEEPER Betty Anne Bailey**

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With a crucial national election only a few weeks away, Christian voters should be reminded that the decision to vote assumes sufficient knowledge to make informed deci-

sions about the candidates. Regrettably, voting decisions are often based on party preference, impressions of candidates drawn from media clips and sound bites, or misinformation intentionally dumped into the political fray.

Confusion could be reduced if people with a biblical world view made the pre-election effort to ask some basic questions about a candidate's relationships, beliefs, and loyalties. Such basic questions might

What is the candidate's relationship to the Lord and his

Most candidates posture themselves as God-fearing and church-supporting. Church pews are filled during elections with candidates seeking to look religious.

Is the candidate a faithful member of a local community of faith?

Does the candidate support the local church financially? Often, the pocketbook is the best record of the depth of commitment.

If the candidate claims to be a Christian, can he/she share

without difficulty a personal testimony of their Christian experience?

Who are the supporters of the candidate?

A check of contributors often reveals unspoken alliances and philosophical preferences.

on political and social issues that are considered important.

While claiming to be pro-life, does the candidate still tolerate radical forms of abortion such as dilation and extraction (partial-birth abortion) or advocate assisted suicide and euthanasia?

When resources are scarce,

is not a problem unless there is a restrictive membership policy.

A fraternal organization need not create doubt unless the group holds sinister or clandestine meetings or rituals.

Each voter must decide if a candidate's relationships are

GUEST OPINION:



Before you vote...

By Paul G. Jones II **Executive Director** Mississippi Christian Action Commission

For example, contributions from the Arian Nations, the Nation of Islam, or other groups known for racial polarization reveal a great deal about the candidate.

Large contributions from political action committees (PACs) normally indicate an alignment with one side of a major issue.

Do contributions come from a wide assortment of people and groups, or from those espousing a single issue or agenda?

What are the candidate's positions on key issues? Each Christian voter must decide if a candidate holds proper values

will the candidate continue to seek ways to assist the poor, the needy, and the disenfranchised of society?

What are the candidate's ews on tobacco, a COHOL, bling, foreign policy, national defense, taxation, and a balanced budget?

What is the candidate's opinion of government involvement in our personal

In what groups does the candidate hold membership?

Much can be concluded by studying the candidate's personal associates.

A country club membership

acceptable. Is the candidate known to

be a person of moral character

and integrity? How a candidate makes personal decisions will reflect how decisions will be made on the public level.

Rumors and accusations are a part of every campaign, and obviously groundless slander should be rejected.

Candidates who can't live within certain personal ethical constraints during a campaign would undoubtedly find it difficult to act ethically and responsibly when placed in ner office.

What is the candidate's priority: statesmanship and integrity, or reelection? Is being reelected more important than

doing right?
In politics, ignorance is not bliss. Proper Christian political involvement demands an informed mind, a sensitive heart, and responsible action.

Pray for guidance, get involved, and ask the candidates a few tough questions before you make up your mind.

Fundraising set to begin for Garaywa lodge

By William H. Perkins Jr. Editor

The Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) Stewardship Department will design and coordinate the fundraising campaign for the \$1.2 million adult lodge planned at Camp Garaywa in Clinton, according to Garaywa Lodge Building Committee chair-



Looking over plans for the proposed adult lodge at Camp Garaywa are (from left) David Michel, Director of the MBCB Stewardship Department; Marjean Patterson, Executive Director of the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union (WMU); state WMU President Sandra Nash; and Lydia Jones, vice-chairwoman of the Garaywa Adult Lodge Building Committee. (Photo by William H. Perkins Jr.)

woman Dell Scoper of Laurel.

Scoper said committee members interviewed four highly-recommended fundraising consultant firms, but the Stewardship Department stacked up as well as any of the private firms with the added benefit of charging no fee for the fundraising effort.

"The Stewardship Department is a big plus for the campaign; it's truly a marriage made in Heaven. We know the members of the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) will be pleased to know we will not have to pay a large fee for the campaign," she said.

David Michel is director of the Stewardship Department, and Jim Harrell serves as consultant.

Camp Garaywa is the state Girls in Action (GA) campground, and is managed by Mississippi WMU.

The centrally-located camp has been in demand in recent years as the location of choice for many adult meetings, but there are no facilities designed expressly for adults.

The committee is

August selected as the lodge building site a flat area just beyond the Garaywa swimming pool.

The MBCB executive committee earlier this year officially sanctioned the fundraising campaign, which means individual churches can be approached and MBCB publications can promote the campaign.

Scoper said a display at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Oct. 29-30 at First Church, Jackson, will contain details of the building project and fundraising campaign, as well as a preview of the Camp Garaywa fiftieth anniversary celebration planned for Spring 1997.

For more information, contact the Mississippi WMU Department at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 948-1651.

THE
SECOND
FRONT PAGE



Mississippi Baptist Convention convenes 161st session Oct. 29-30 at First, Jackson

By Tim Nicholas MBCB Communications Dir.

The 161st annual session of the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC) will begin Oct. 29 at First Church, Jackson, with associated preliminary meetings getting underway on Monday, Oct. 28.

Activites will include messages by Dellana O'Brien, head of Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union in Birmingham; O.S. Hawkins, pastor of First Church, Dallas, the Southern Baptist Convention's (SBC) largest church; and retired missionaries.

Messengers will also consider a record state Cooperative Program budget and a new covenant relationship with MBC-affiliated institutions.

The first official session of the convention begins on Tuesday, Oct. 29, at 8:30 a.m. in First Church's sanctuary, after a slate of Monday programs which include a Lay Missions Conference, a Ministers' Wives Conference, and a Pastors' Conference.

A complete, clip-out Convention schedule can be found on page 11 of this issue.

page 11 of this issue.

The evening portion of the Lay Missions Conference begins at 5 p.m. with a banquet in Fellowship Hall East at First Church, Jackson. O'Brien will be featured speaker.

Additionally, the banquet will offer a testimony by Robert Brown, pastor of Grace

Community Church, Tchula, and representatives will be presented from Mississippi's three current partnership missions: Honduras, Venezuela, and the state of Colorado.

Ministers wives will meet from 1-4:30 p.m. on Oct. 28.

They will hear two speakers, both ministers' wives: Katherine Webster, retired secretary at the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; and Betty Davis, creative writer of Sunday School curriculum for children.

The Pastors' Conference will have two Oct. 28 sessions — at 1 p.m. and 6:16 p.m.

The afternoon session will feature Mississippi pastors Don Boone of Agricola Church, Agricola; Tom Atwood of First Church, Oxford; Dean Stewart of First Church, McLain; and Kara Blackard of Wheeler Grove Church, Corinth.

Evening speakers will be Fred Wolfe, pastor of Cottage Hills Church, Mobile; Hawkins; and James Merritt, pastor of First Church, Snellville, Ga.

Tuesday morning begins the first session (8:30 a.m.) of the four-sessions of the 1996 Mississippi Baptist Convention.

Though a shorter convention than earlier years — conventions have run between five and seven sessions — organizers say there should be adequate time to accomplish convention business.

MBC President Jimmy Porter, pastor of First Church, McComb,

said the convention can be extended into Wednesday afternoon, if necessary.

Convention business includes consideration of a \$24 million Cooperative Program budget, 37% of which goes to SBC-related causes outside Mississippi.

The remainder funds Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) training programs in the churches and associations, child care, Christian higher education, foundation work, and education for Christian action.

Other business to be handled by messengers includes:

 election of convention officers. Porter is eligible for a second one-year term.

consideration of resolutions.

 consideration of an MBCB proposal to establish a covenant relationship between MBC and trustees of MBC-affiliated institutions.

The plan would include joint nominations of trustees by trustee boards and the MBC nominating committee, which is elected by the convention.

Institutions affected by the proposal include Blue Mountain College in Blue Mountain, William Carey College in Hattiesburg, the Mississippi Baptist Medical Center in Jackson, and the Baptist Children's Village in Jackson.

Porter said the 1996 convention "could well be the most important of modern times."

The covenant proposal will "strengthen our relationships with all our institutions and place them in a position to fulfill their stated mission.

"When this is accomplished, our state will be able to forego much of the pain and agony being experienced by many of our sister states," Porter said.

"God has assigned Mississippi Baptists a tremendous task and I believe this PUBLISHED SINCE 1877

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'Vessels' videotape showcases Mississippi Baptist missions

The latest edition of "Vessels," the video magazine that hightlights mission work of Mississippi Baptists around the state and the world, is now available. The VHS-format videotape features Girls In Action (GA) summer camp at Camp Garay wa in Clinton: Mississippi Baptist volunteers at the Atlanta Clympics; a Discovery Weekend at Montgomery Church in Pike County; and the Simpson Association by ministry in Mendenhall Copies of the videotape are available on a loaner bests from associational directors of the sions, and from the best days Services Department of the Mississippi Baptist Garactics (501) was said to creatly the sould have best from the feedback Services Department of the Mississippi Baptist Garactics (501) was said to creatly the restrict Jackson (800) 448-14-14.

convention will unite us as one body in Christ, motivated to help bring Mississippi and the world to Jesus," he added.

Robert Hamblin, professor at New Orleans Seminary, will give the Bible Treasure devotionals on Tuesday morning, Tuesday afternoon, and Wednesday morning.

Longtime warriors

Two longtime warriors in the battle for racial reconciliation talked during the Oct. 14 presentation of church rebuilding fund checks in Alcorn County. Eli Dilworth (left), chairman of the trustees at Mt. Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church, and Richard Brogan, consultant with the Missions Extention and Associational Administration Deptartment of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB), discussed the good and bad times from days past. Brogan has worked with African-American Baptists for over 25 years and is currently involved in ethnic ministries at MBCB. (Photo by Carl M. White)

Churches beginning new life after disastrous arson attacks

By Carl M. White Associate Editor

On the evening of June 17, two African-American churches in Alcorn County were burned by arsonists. From those ashes, new life has come forth.

"The truth is, as the church was being burned, people came together," said Eli Dilworth, trustee chairman at Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist

"I've gotten to see more people, black and white, coming together with lifetime bonds being established. People pure in heart have come and said, 'How can I help?'" added Perry Carroll, pastor of Central Grove Missionary Baptist Church.

Mount Pleasant and Central Grove are less than 20 minutes apart. "Just a couple of miles, as the crow flies," said Dilworth.

Officials believe the same individual or individuals are responsible for starting both fires, as well as for a "Molotov Cocktail" thrown at the predominantly-white Kossuth Church of Christ.

The Kossuth device bounced harmlessly off the roof of the building and burned a small circle of grass on the church's lawn.

Mississippi Baptists are part of the Southern Baptist effort to help rebuild African-American churches victimized by arsonists.

Don Wilson, director-of the Mission Extension and Associational Administration Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB), presented checks Oct. 17 for \$17,000 each to Mount Pleasant and Central Grove from the MBCB church rebuilding fund and the special arson fund of the Southern Baptist Convention.

The checks will be deposited in the "Resurrection Fund" at

National Bank of Commerce in Corinth. Over \$113,000 has been donated to the fund since the burning of the two churches.

More than \$25,000 was pledged locally the day after the fires, according to the "Clarion Ledger" newspaper in Jackson. The money, equally divided between the two churches, is being used to purchase needed materials and fund reconstruction.

"We have seen denominations coming together," Carroll said. He noted one group from Chicago pitching in to help included Quakers, Episcopalians, Methodists, Baptists, and many other denominations.

Americares Foundation, a non-profit disaster relief orgaan aluminum frame. Local volunteers did the construction.

Carroll said the Central Grove congregation plans to build a new worship facility about five feet from the Americares building.

Americares building.
"We will use the Americares building as a youth recreational facility," he said.

Mount Pleasant plans to do the same, according to Dilworth.

Central Grove was established about 80 years ago by a group from already-established Mount Pleasant.

Two months ago the church was a part-time, struggling congregation. Since the fire, according to Carroll, it has become a full-time church and

The charred cross that once topped the cupola on Mount Pleasant Missionary Baptist Church in Alcorn County stands sentinel over a temporary worship structure at the church site. Mount Pleasant and Central Grove Churches burned within 20

is reaching new people with the Gospel.

minutes of each other on June 17.

Mount Pleasant is over 110 years old and has about 130 members, according to Dilworth.

John Edgston, pastor for the past 11 years, is bivocational.

Ed Gandy, Alcorn Association director of missions, is coordinating local efforts to help the two churches. He may be reached at P.O. Box 2316, Corinth, MS 38834. Telephone: (601) 286-8215.

The MBCB Brotherhood Department is managing the church rebuilding fund in Mississippi and coordinating statewide efforts to help reconstruct burned African-American churches.

For more information, contact the Brotherhood Department at P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530. Telephone: (601) 968-3800 or toll-free outside Jackson (800) 948-1651.



On band for the presentation of church rebuilding fund checks checks Oct. 14 at Alcorn Association be adquarters in corinth were (from left) Nat Mayhall, former director of missions, Alcorn Association; Ed Gandy, director of missions, Alcorn Association; Richard Brogan, MBCB consultant; Eli Dilworth, chairman of the board of trustees, Mount Pleasant M.B. Church; Perry Carroll, pastor, Central Grove M.B. Church; and Don Wilson, director of the MBCB Missions Extention and Associational Administration Department. (Photos by Carl M. White)

nization in New Canaan, Conn., coordinated the donation and construction at each site of \$45,000 temporary buildings made of a canvas-like white material stretched over



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High price exacted for dinner invitation

By William H. Perkins Jr.

First in a series

Gaylon (not her real name) wishes she had never accepted that invitation to dinner.

She believes if she hadn't, she would never have lost her family, humiliated herself in prostitution, or lived in fear of using her real name on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.
"I thought I could handle it,

but it's the strongest drug I've ever done," Gaylon said as she sat trembling in her counselor's Gulfport office.

What could compel Gaylon - a lifelong Gulfport resident, devout Southern Baptist, and stay-at-home mother — to give up everything for a hooker's life on the street?

'Satan can appear to be an angel of light, and that's what those casino lights are for me,"

Tempted again and again to return for the elaborate, inexpensive buffets — a casino staple — Gaylon eventually began detouring by the video poker machines on her way out of the building.

In a matter of months, she had stolen \$30,000 from her children, driven her recovering husband back into alcoholism, and was hurtling toward utter personal destruction.

She lost 30 pounds because she gambled three to four days at a time without stopping to eat or sleep, convinced that the next bet would be the big winner.

"I talked to the machines; I worshipped the machines. I've seen people wet their pants because they wouldn't leave a machine," Gaylon said.

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Gambling has taken away precious thing everv in Gaylon's life.

Her face broke into a wry smile as she recalled how she voted "no" in the referendum that brought gambling to the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

As her money continued to vanish into the machines, she became increasingly desperate for more cash to stay "in play."

She was approached by a casino floor employee, who gave her a room number at the casino hotel.

He was, in effect, the casino pimp, splitting with her the proceeds of her prostitution.

"They've got all the bases covered," Gaylon said.

As her gambling addiction deepened, her personal life turned darker with every act of prostitution.

"(The pimps) loved me,

because they knew I'd do anything for the money. I'd go to a room thinking, 'Let's get this over with so I can get back to my machine," she said.

She also developed a strong paranoria about the "eye in the sky" - the state-of-the-art surveillance systems used by every casino.

"The 'eye in the sky' sees everything, from the time you pull off the highway into the casino parking lot. They know who I am, and I'm totally convinced I could get hurt if they found out I was doing this (interview)," she said.

Gaylon even considered prostituting her teenaged daughter for gambling money. She contemplated robbing 'a bank, as much for closure as for the money.

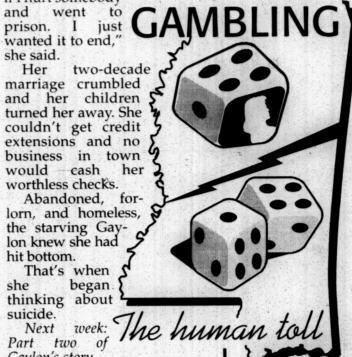
"I had access to a gun. I didn't care if I got away with it, or if I hurt somebody wanted it to end," she said.

two-decade Her marriage crumbled and her children turned her away. She couldn't get credit extensions and no business in town would cash her worthless checks.

Abandoned, forlorn, and homeless, the starving Gay-lon knew she had hit bottom.

That's when began. she thinking about suicide.

Gaylon's story.



Take the test...

Could you be addicted to gambling?

Gamblers Anonymous utilizes a 20-question test to help determine whether a person is developing a gambling prob-

Place a check mark in the boxes beside the questions below to which you can truthfully answer "yes.

Be honest. If you are headed for trouble, there is no way to help yourself unless you recognize you have a problem that could get out of hand.

- Do you lose time from work due to gambling?
- Does gambling make your home life unhappy?
- Does gambling affect your reputation?
- Do you ever feel remorse after gambling?

- Do you ever gamble to get

 Does gambling make you money with which to pay debts or to otherwise solve financial difficulties?
- Does gambling cause a decrease in your ambition or efficiency?
- After losing, do you feel you must return as soon as possible and win back your losses?
- After a win, do you have a strong urge to return and win more?
- Do you often gamble until your last dollar is gone?
- Do you ever borrow to finance your gambling?
- Do you ever sell anything to finance gambling?
- Are you reluctant to use 'gambling money" for normal expenditures?

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- careless about the welfare of your family?
- Do you ever gamble longer than you planned?
- Do you ever gamble to escape worry or trouble?
- Do you ever commit or consider committing an illegal act to finance your gambling?
- Does gambling cause you to have difficulty sleeping?
- Do arguments, disappointments, or frustrations create within you an urge to gamble?
- Do you have an urge to celebrate good fortune by a few hours gambling?
- Do you ever consider selfdestructing as a result of your gambling?

If you answered yes to seven or more of these questions, immediately contact your pastor, your local Baptist church, or call Gambler's Anonymous

Gambler's Anonymous P.O. Box 17173 Los Angeles, CA 90017

For more information on gambling, contact:

Christian Action Commission of the Miss. Baptist Convention Paul G. Jones II, Executive Director P.O. Box 530 Jackson, MS 39205-0530 (601) 968-3800 (800) 748-1651 (outside Jackson)

National Coalition Against Legalized Gambling Field Operations - Tom Grey, 414 Gere St. Galena, IL 61036 (318) 380-5060 ext. 241

Information Center - Ronald Hyde, 540 S. Palisade Dr. Orem, UT 84058 1-800-664-2680 www.iquest.net/cpage/ncalg

Christian Life Commission of the **Southern Baptist Convention** Richard Land, Executive Director 901 Commerce St., Suite 550,

Nashville, TN 37203-3696 (615) 244-2495

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MISSIONARY NEWS



Brenda and Kevin Peacock were among 30 people appointed by the Foreign Mission Board Oct. 8 during a service at New Bridge Church in Richmond, Va.

The Peacocks will live in Canada. He will teach Old Testament and Hebrew at the Canadian Seminary in Alberta.

Recently he was a teaching fellow and an adjunct professor of Old Testament at Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas.

Born in Natchez, Kevin Peacock is the son of Billy and Teressa Peacock of Richmond, Va. His father is an associate director in the Volunteers in Missions Department at the Foreign Mission Board. His parents also were missionaries to South Korea from 1968 to 1981. He lived in Taejon and Seoul, Korea; and Jackson and Blue Mountain. He received his education at Mississippi College and Southwestern Seminary.

Brenda Peacock was born in Wewoka, Okla., and is the daughter of Bill and Carol Robinson of Durant, Okla. She received her education at Grayson County Junior College, Sherman, Texas, Southeastern Oklahoma State University, and Southwestern Seminary.

The Peacocks have two children, Meleah Danielle, born in 1993; and Micah James, 1996

Property deed presented to Clarke alumni

By Carl M. White Associate Editor

special committee formed to dispose of the Clarke College property presented the deed for one acre of land and a house to the Clarke College Alumni Association (CCAA) on Oct. 17.

Larry Otis, a Tupelo businessman and chairman of the special committee, presented the deed on behalf of Mississippi Baptists to the officers of CCAA.

We are pleased that the Clarke alumni have been legally constituted and can accept the deed to the property on behalf of the Mississippi Baptist Convention (MBC)," Otis said. Messengers to the 1995 MBC

session directed the special committee to reserve from any sale of the Clarke College property one acre and a building for the use by the school's alumni.

Evelyn Williams, CCAA secretary-treasurer, received the deed on behalf of CCAA.

"Thank you, Mississippi Baptists, for allowing us to have such a place where we can still be identified as the Clarke College Alumni Association," Williams said.

James Griffith, CCAA president added, "We felt the warmth of the Lord's direction in making certain this place would be here for us. We will make good use of it."

Clarke College, a former Baptist-affiliated junior college in Newton, was closed in May of 1992

On Aug. 20 of this year, the Mississippi State Department Mental Health (DMH) entered into a one-year option to purchase the property for

Funding for the purchase is expected to be approved by the Mississippi Legislature in January 1997.

DMH plans to convert the property into a facility for adults age 35 and older who need limited supervision in a residential setting.



Present for the transfer of the property deed to the Clarke College Alumni Association (CCAA) were (front row, from left) Juanita West, CCAA past president; James Griffith, CCAA president; Evelyn Williams, CCAA secretatry; Larry Otis, chairman of the Clarke Property Committee (CPC); (second row, from left) Frank Harmon, CPC member; R. J. Reynolds, CPC member; J. B. Costilow, CCAA; Marian Thorton, CCAA; Juan Williams, CCAA; Ernestine Burns, CCAA; (back row, from left) Barri A. Shirley, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board; Sally Hart, CCAA; Kelton Valentine, CCAA; Bill May CPC member. (Photo by Carl M. White)

BSSB, SBCNet adding Internet web locations

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP) -The Baptist Sunday School Board and SBCNet, the Southern Baptist Convention's computer network coordinated by the board, have launched web sites on the Internet.

The address for the BSSB site on the World Wide Web is http://www.bssb.com.

Baptist Sunday School Board Online" is the web site identification, according to Chip alford, coordinator of corporate content.

The SBCNet site may be accessed at http://www.sbcnet.org.

David According

Haywood, webmaster for the board and SBCNet coordinator, the web site will differ from SBCNet on CompuServe.

The site will introduce persons to Southern Baptists and the denomination's entities. SBCNet on CompuServe is a subscription service designed for use by Southern Baptists to obtain resources and participate in interactive forums.

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seeking Christ-centered and skilled finan-cial industy professional to roll out avail-able turn key, State-of-The Art Financial Planning Seminars to God's people through local churches, Must be NASD licensed. Exclusive opportunity available. FAX confi-dential resume for private interview to: (601)956-6015

Chaplains set banquet for Oct. 29 in Baptist Building

The Mississippi Baptist Chaplains Association will meet for their annual banquet

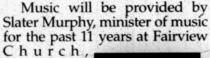
at 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 29 in the Sky Room of the Baptist Building in Jackson.

Robert Vickers, director of military chaplaincy



the

Southern Baptist Home Mission Board in Atlanta, will be the featured speaker. He recently retired as a U.S. Army chaplain after nearly 21 years of ministry.



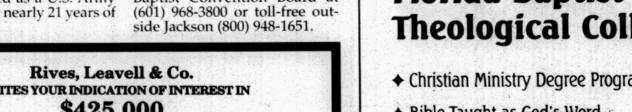
Columbus. He serves as the pianist for the Mississippi Singing Churchmen.

For more information or to make reservations,



contact Elaine Smith

in the Mission Extension and Associational Administration Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board at



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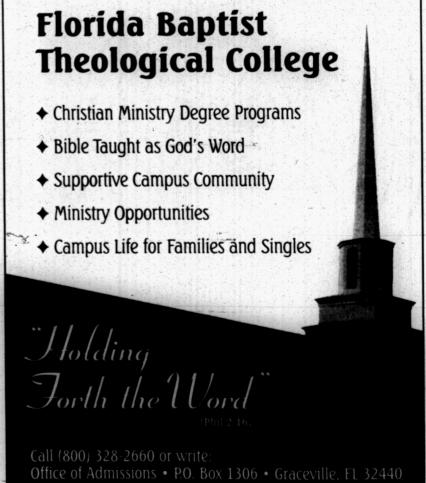
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This Announcement is neither an offer or a solicitation of an offer to buy. The offer is made only by prospectus. For more complete information-about this bond issue, obtain a prospectus which describes all of the particulars of this undertaking. Read it carefully before you invest or send money. All bonds are offered at face value plus accrued interest,

For more information, call or write to:



Christy Overby Account Executive 460 Briarwood, Suite 515 Jackson, Mississippi 39236 Local (601) 856-9158 Toll Free 800-288-4183



October 24, 1996

HouseTops is a Baptist Record supplement produced by the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board's Office of

Mississippi Baptist All-State Youth Choir and Orchestra Auditions

For 9th - 12th Graders

November '96 Choral Auditions

1000	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
5th	5-8 p.m.	FBC, Summit
7th	5-8 p.m.	FBC, Ocean Springs
9th	10-noon	Southside Baptist Church, Meridian
11th	5-8 p.m.	Baptist Building, Jackson
12th	5-8 p.m.	Clarksdale Baptist Church, Clarksdale
14th	5-8 p.m.	Fairview Baptist Church, Columbus
16th	9 a.m1 p.m.	Harrisburg Baptist Church, Tupelo

November '96 Choral and Orchestra Auditions

	5-8 p.m.	William Carey College, Hattiesburg
22nd	5-8 p.m.	Crossgates Baptist Church, Brandon
23rd	noon-4 p.m.	North Oxford Baptist Church, Oxford
	(NOTE All instrum	ontalists will be expected to audition rocally)

Choir auditions will include:

- A solo (no tapes) Sight reading Tonal Memory
- · Singing their voice part from a hymn (all girls will sing the alto part)
- · A registration form, which you may request from the Church Music Department, may be duplicated

Instrumental auditions will include:

- A prepared piece Scales Sight reading
- Technique and tune
 - · A registration form, which you may request from the Church Music Department, may be duplicated

Contact the Church Music Department at 1-800-748-1651 or in Jackson at 968-3800 for more details on these auditions.

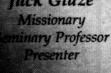
Lay Missions conference

GENERAL CONFERENCE - 3:00 p.m.

Ministering with the Diverse People in Mississippi

- See them
- Speak to them
- Relate to them

Jack Glaze Missionary





MISSION FELLOWSH

- Agricultural Missions
- Construction
- Corp.

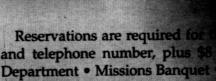
GROUPS

 Church Renewal Missions Service









Preschool childcare (ages birth to your reservation a list of your chil

se send your name, address our group, to the Brotherhood Jackson, MS 39205-0530.

old) will be provided. Include with names and birthdays (including the

For further information, contact the Brotherhood Department at 1-800-748-1651 or in Jackson at 968-3800, ext. 3934.

BE A PART OF THE MISSISSIPPI PARTNERSHIP WITH VENEZUELA

Volunteers are needed for 25 teams of two persons each (preachers, singers) to work in an evangelistic campaign in the South Central Baptist Association, March 7-17, 1997.

This campaign in missions will seek to constitute churches in Valencia, Maracay, Calabozo and Puerto Ayacucho, Venezuela. Teams will do personal evangelism during the day and conduct evangelistic meetings at night.

The cost of this project is \$1,300 which includes airfare, food, lodging, insurance, transportation in-country, and airport departure tax. A non-refundable \$100 deposit will be due upon signing up. Other funds will be due six weeks prior to departure. Spouses will b

be teamed together.

For further information, contact Sonny Adkins, Evangelism Department, or Bill Hardy, Partnership Missions Department of the MBCB, P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205, or call 601/968-3800, toll free outside Jackson, 800/748-1651.□

Pray this day for ...

October 25-November 7, 1996

Prayer Ministry Office • P. O. Box 530 • Jackson, MS 39205-0530 • Phone 968-3800, Ext. 3904 • Mississippi PrayerLine 1-800-787-PRAY

"As our heart touches the Father's heart, we assume the same rhythm, the same desires, and the same goals. The more we know Him the more we love Him."

Alice Smith in "Beyond the veil"

Billy Graham said, "If America is to be spared, and avoid the horrors of a dying nation, we must rediscover what it means to love God and one another," Pray that we will repent before it's too late.

Several churches have expressed a desire to start prayer ministries. Pray that they will be successful and that many other churches will do the same

ではない

MS Baptist Conv. Board Mtg, Baptist Bldg. 10 am; Ministers' Wives Conf., FBC, Jxn, 1:15-4:45 pm; Lay Missions Conf. FBC, Jxn, 1-7 pm; 28-30 - MS Baptist Conv., FBC, Jxn

Pray for criminal justice ministry as churches see the need to work not only with offenders, but also with victims of crime, families of incarcerated persons, and criminal justice professionals.

Gwen Crotts, 20 yr. veteran missionary in Hong Kong, was recently appointed China ministry coordinator. Pray for her as she directs ministries and personnel who work with the Chinese Christian Council.

The first Tues. of Nov. (today) is election day. Pray that every qualified voter will seek God's guidance as they vote and that dedicated Christians will be elected. elected.

Pray for MS WMUs and Brotherhoods as they encourage MS Baptists to join AR and TN in an effort to send 200-70 lb, boxes of food per state around Thanksgiving to Pyongyang, Korea.

Pray that more churches will consider casino-related ministries such as a ministry to casino employees and counseling with those who have sampling addiction problems

Jimmy Draper, pres., SS Board, SBC, wrote: "72% of today's youth say the Bible offers a clear description of moral truth, but only 44% believe humans are capable of grasping the meaning of truth."

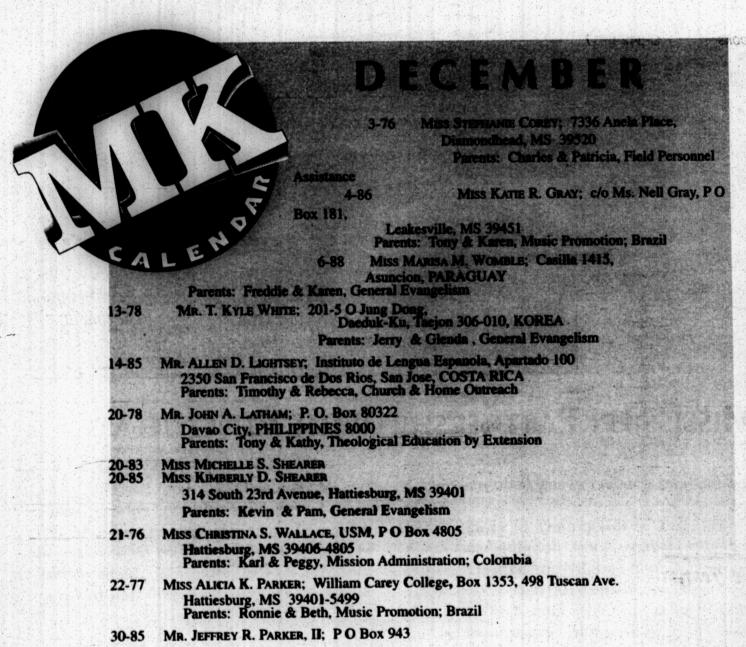
As you struggle with life's battles, keep praying with the conviction that God is on your side.

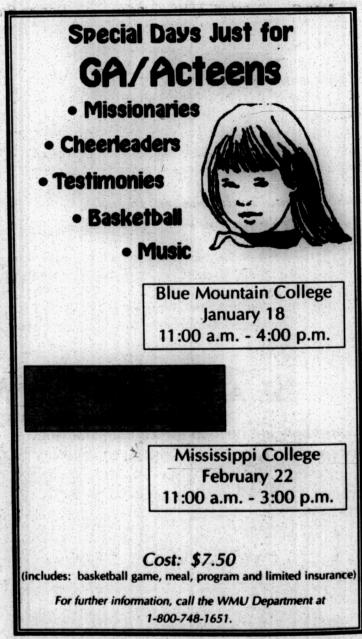
Grady Collins, pastor of Trinity Baptist Church, Philadelphia, MS, and prayer coordinator for Neshoba Assoc. is sponsoring a Prayer Retreat Oct. 26. Pray that all who attend will commit to pray more.

1-3 International Student Conf., Camp Garaywa, 4 pm, 1st-noon, 3rd. Sponsored by Student Work Dept.

GA/Acteens Day, Central Hills Retreat, 10 am-3 pm Sponsored by WMU Dept.

HMB Pres., Larry Lewis said, "the salvation of the world waits on two thingsthe senders and the goers. Pray for 100,000 Baptists to commit to mission support by praying daily for home and foreign missionaries."

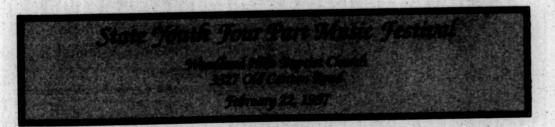




1997 AREA KEYBOARD



AREA	LOCATION	FESTIVAL	PHONE
		LEADER	C=Church H=Home
Thursd	ay, January 23, 1997 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.		
Area 2	Harrisburg BC, Tupelo	Darwin Brooks	C-842-6917
	1800 West Main	Diane Smith	
Area 4	Fairview BC, Columbus 127 Airline Rd.	Slater Murphy	C-328-2924
Area 5	Morrison Hgts, BC, Clintor 201 Morrison Dr.	n Carol Durham	H-924-0469
Area 7	FBC, McComb	Mark Moore	C-684-2971
	1700 Delaware Ave.	Carol Watts	C-684-2971
Area 8	FBC, Laurel 605 Fifth Ave.	Earline Carter	C-649-5710
Friday,	January 24, 1997		
	6:30 - 8:30 p.m.		
Area 8	FBC, Hattiesburg 510 W. Pine St.	Kathy Vail	H-264-7443
Area 9	FBC, Gulfport 40 53rd St.	Tammy Turnage	H-896-5566
Saturd	ay, January 25, 1997		
	9:30 a.m noon		
Area 1			Colonial Hills
BC	Elizabeth Cothern		H-781-2582
	7701 Hwy 51 North, Sout	haven	
Area 3	Second BC, Greenville 1407 East Reed Rd.	Curtis Hatcher	C-355-3343
Area 5	FBC, Vicksburg	Jim Hess	C-636-2493
	1607 Cherry Street	31	₩
Area 5	Alta Woods BC, Jackson	Wyndy South	H-957-3615
	168 Colonial Dr.	Bob Jones	C-372-8651
Area 6	Poplar Springs Dr. BC	Harry Tillery	C-485-5106



Poplar Springs Dr. BC

Area 6

Annual Conference for Mississippi Baptist Ministers' Wives

First Baptist Church, Jackson

MONDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1996 • 1-4:30 P.M.

- ♣ Inspiration, Fellowship, Personal Growth, Information and Support for the minister's wife!
 - * There is no cost for this conference.

PROGRAM PERSONALITIES INCLUDE:

Katherine Webster, Clinton - minister's wife and retired **MBCB** secretary

Betty Davis, Newbebron - minister's wife and creative writer of Sunday School curriculum for children and articles for various Christian publications

Dellanna O'Brien, Birmingbam - executive directortreasurer, WMU, SBC

Child care will be available for preschoolers on a limited basis. Please contact the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department at 1-800-748-1651 for registration information or to learn more about this exciting event.

Again this conference is ABSOLUTELY FREE! But you do need to register NOW.

REGISTRATION FORM

Complete the registration form and return to Julius C. Thompson,
Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department,
P.O. Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205-0530

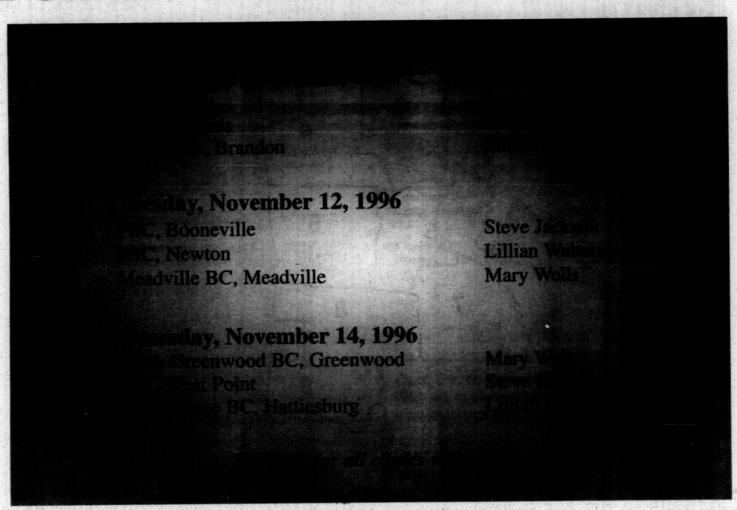
Church	Association	
	c-e2(
City	Zip	-
Husband's Position		f h=

9 AREA BIBLE DRILL CLINICS SCHEDULED IN NOVEMBER

Bible Drill clinics have been scheduled in nine different locations during November. These clinics will-give step by step detailed help for beginning and successfully leading Bible Drill in your local church. Clinics are for both Children and Youth Bible Drill leaders, judges, and callers.

We are fortunate to have three of Mississippi Baptists' best Bible Drill leaders to lead these clinics. The leaders will be Steve Jackson, pastor of McLaurin Heights Baptist Church in Pearl; Lillian Walters, Associational Bible Drill director of Metro Baptist Association; and Mary Wells, long time leader and state special worker in Bible Drills.

For further information, call Don Hicks (Children's Bible Drills) or Wes Pegues (Youth Bible Drills) in the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board Discipleship and Family Ministry Department at 601-968-3800 or toll-free, 1-800-748-1651.





FALL

- Select a time for your weekly training sessions
- Secure additional leader if needed
- Select a Church Drill date and put on your church calendar
- Determine Associational Drill date call your associational office
- Determine the date and location of the State Drill you will attend and put it on your church calendar
- Put the Selection Tournament dates on your church calendar
- Plan for all your leadership to attend a Bible Drill Clinic - See schedule listed above
- Decide if your children's group will use the NIV or the KIV Bible drill
- Order Bibles
- Secure Bible Drill brochures for your children and youth - These are available through the Discipleship and Family Ministry Department at the Baptist Building in Jackson
- · Begin training sessions
- Attend the Bible Drill Clinic with your Bible Drill leaders

WINTER

- · Continue training sessions
- Secure leadership for your Church Drill

A caller

A time keeper (secure a stop watch) Judges



SPRING

- Secure a "Church Drill Packet" from the Discipleship and Family Ministry Department at the Baptist Building in Jackson, 1-800-748-1651
- Conduct your Church Drill
- Attend the Associational Drill with your Church Drill

winners

- Attend the Selection Tournament Drill with your youth who qualify at the State Drills
- Conduct in your church a recognition ceremony recognizing all your church's Bible Drill

A Note to Pastors

It's NOT TOO LATE to plan for Bible Drills in your church in 1997!

Select a Bible Drill leader now to begin preparations using the steps outlined on this page.

For further information, call the Discipleship and Family Ministry Department.



Proposed Amendments to the Mississippi Baptist Convention Constitution Plan of Organization and Action

Article VI

Section 1. The Convention, the Convention Board, and commssions or boards established by the Convention or any institution supported by the Convention, not now chartered may be chartered after authorization to do so is granted by vote of the Convention.

Section 2. Charters of the Convention, the Convention Board, commissions established by the Convention, or institution supported by the Convention may be amended only after such amendment is authorized by the Convention in annual session.

Section 3. The Convention, during any annual session, may direct the trustees, or any other operating board, of the Convention Board, commissions established by the Convention, or any institution supported by the Convention to amend the charter of such board, agency, commission, or institution to conform to an amendment adopted by the Convention.

Article VII

Section 1. Each college, hospital, or child care agency owned and supported by the Convention shall be operated and controlled by a board of trustees of twenty-four members elected for terms of three years prescribed by the Bylaws of the Convention.

Dead Sea scrolls

An English translation of the Dead Sea Scrolls is due to be published in November, providing greater access to the ancient documents that have fascinated religious scholars for decades.

There will be a lot of collegeeducated people who would be interested in it, claims Edward Cook of the Aramaic Lexicon Project at Cincinnati's Hebrew Union College. "The Dead Sea Scrolls: A New Translation," is the work of three scholars, including Cook.

The first scrolls were found in 1947 in a cave near Qumran in the West Bank. Other discoveries followed, and the scrolls, rolled up in stone jars, eventu-



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

ally numbered 870.

No one knows for sure who wrote the scrolls, which appear to have been written between the second century B.C. and the first century A.D.

The collection contains the oldest known texts of the Old Testament, as well as messianic prophecies and moral teachings that shed light on the developement of Judaism at the time of Jesus and the origins of Christianity.

Order blanks for this hard

Are your seniors tired of crawling over the **HUMP?** The solution is 15-passenger van with an aisle, raised roof & electric step. Call Tri-State Van & Bus Today! +-800-330-3622 **BUSES! VANS! PEOPLE MOVERS!**

cover book, "The Dead Sea Scrolls: A New Translation," will be available at the Mississippi Baptist State Convention, October 28-30th. Anyone interested in this please contact me at the convention.

John Jacobs Emeritus Missionary, SBC Booneville

SBC giving needs

If our state is to remain a leader in missions, we must increase our support of the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC). Foreign and home missions are the blood that courses the state of the st through the veins of the Mississippi Baptist Cooperative Program. Our great state ranked eighth among major states in 1996 with 35.93% of our budget going to the SBC. Seven states have a greater emphasis on mis-Georgia (44.91%),

YOUTH GROUPS NEEDED

Atlanta, Orlando, Philadelphia, Baltimore, Buffalo New Orleans, Branson, Denver, Tampa, Chicago for summer missions. We provide meals, lodging, assignment. For info, costs, contact Youth on Mission, Bx 2095, Rocky Mt, NC, 27802 (800) 299-0385

Alabama (42.3%), Arkansas (41.77%), Florida (40%), Oklahoma (40%), South Carolina (38.3%), and Kentucky (37%).

Mississippi has long been a leader in the SBC in reaching our world. Morris Chapman and Jerry Rankin are two of our men. Our missionaries are leaders all over the world but I fear our state is loosening the grip on the rope. God is doing great things in our world. I attended the recent Creative Access Network conference at the Foreign Mission Board. The ten area directors reported ear tingling events from places like Mongolia, Yemen, Brazil, and Bosnia. Bob and Bev Thomas, veteran missionaries from Highland Church, lead our work in Yemen. Our own Mississippian, Jerry Rankin, leads our board with dignity, vision, and class. Let us reclaim our proper place as the leader in the SBC in missions giving.

Mississippi's past has been spectacular. Our future stores the greatest of days. I pray that my brothers and sisters will encourage an increased percentage of SBC giving during the state convention.

Clayton Cloer, pastor Highland Church

CLASSIFIED ADS

RATE: 50 cents per word, \$5 minimum. Cash with order except on contract advertising. Include name, address, zip code, and phone number in word count. No blind ads.

PASSENGER VANS FOR private and church groups. From \$54.95 per day/ limited free miles/ 7- to 15-seat. Occasionally for sale: quality used vans. Auto & Truck Rental, Jackson (601) 948-3391. Since 1965.

ATTENTION! BI-VOCATIONAL ministers and music directors: Supplement your church income. Earn \$500-\$1,000 per week with American Protective. Leads furnished, no overnight travel or cash investment - We train you. Call (601) 582-9000 for confidential interview.

CFI — PEWS, NEW & used. Baptistries, steeples, & stained glass, MS & ALA. 1-800-830-0583.

YOUTH OUTINGS? Paintball-games! Other functions! Curry Creek Outdoors. (601) 722-9000.

CHOIR ROBES & accessories, pulpit/judicial robes, paraments. MURPHY ROBES/Mac's Robes, Charles McGlocklin, Authorized Dealer. Statewide 1-800-898-MACS.

COVINGTON-JEFF DAVIS BAPTIST ASSO-CIATION is taking resumes for a Director of Missions. Send resumes to: Covington-Jeff Davis Baptist Association, Personnel Committee, Rt. 1 Box 258 A, Collins, MS 39428. Deadline for receiving resumes is November 10, 1996.

ONLY 6 PLACES LEFT-Join Rev. & Mrs. Gary Bowlin on their 16th trip to Holy Land/Egypt with London option -12 days departing December 30-Deluxe &semideluxe accomodations; Egypt includes Mt. Sinai & Cairo; Call (601) 825-1043 or write 119 Tiffany Drive, Brandon, MS 39042 for brochure or further information.

WANTED: MIN OF ED/YOUTH. Contact Search Committee, FBC, PO Box 1339, St. Francisville, LA 70775.

WANTED TO BUY: Pine Timberland with standing. Timber knee high and above. Wherever located, lack N. Stuart, Sr., 244 Northwood Drive, Morton, MS 39117. (601) 732-2403. Prefer Tracts 1000 acres up.

PART TIME MUSIC DIRECTOR First Baptist Byram. Send resume to 7541 Siwell Road, Jackson, MS 39212.

NEEDED: PART-TIME financial secretary, 20 hours per week. Computer skills, especially Shelby program, a plus. Also paid preschool workers: Send resume to Personnel Committee, Hillcrest Baptist Church, 3102 Monticello Drive, Jackson, MS 39212 or call 372-0132.

BAPTISTRY/BATHTUB REPAIR. Porcelain or fiberglass. No job too large or small. Statewide service. No mileage charge. K&K Bathtub Repair, 1526 Gardner Blvd.,

Columbus, MS 39702; 1-800-349-2882. MINISTER OF MUSIC/YOUTH: Bi-vocational or Full-time. Fellowship Baptist Church, Enterprise, MS. Please contact Dana Dear (601-727-3501), Route 1, Box 37, Hickory, MS 39332.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, CARTHAGE is in the process of renovating their Sanctuary. Choir chairs, pews and pulpit furnishings are available. Inquiries are welcome. Prices are not set; so make us an offer. 267-4583.

EXCITING NEW MINISTRY NOW AVAIL-ABLE. One Song Ministries offers Heith Wilkinson as music evangelist. Over 10 years experience as worship leader, vocal and trumpet soloist, pianist, and youth pastor. For more information contact: One Song Ministries at (601) 746-9677 or 2204 Wildwood Terrace, Yazoo City, MS 39194.

NEEDED: FULL-TIME MINISTER of Children and Youth. Upstate South Carolina. Send resume to Boyd Meetze, P.O. Box 1401, Gaffney, SC 29342.

CHURCH PEW CUSHIONS: Manufactured in our plant. For free estimate contact-Emmons Brothers, P.O. Box 186, Meridian, Miss. 39301. Since 1899. Phone (601) 693-4451.

HEIDELBERG STAINED GLASS, Meridian. Design, Fabrication, Repair. MURPHY ROBE SALES. Call (601) 483-3171 or 1-800-368-2705.

Jesus Christ requests the honor of your presence in heaven!

YOU CAN RESPOND RIGHT NOW! Simply share the following prayer with God in your own words:

- 1. Lord, I admit that I need (I have sinned.)
- 2. I want to be forgiven for my sin and set free from eternal death. (I repent.)
- 3. I believe Jesus died and rose from the grave to forgive my sins and to restore my relationship with you. (I believe in Jesus.)
- 4. By faith, I invite Jesus Christ into my life. From this time on, I want to live in a loving relationship with him.

(I receive Christ as my Savior and Lord.)

But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name John 1:12

If you made a decision for Jesus Christ today, contact a local Southern Baptist church for spiritual guidance.

Call to prayer issued...

Missionary bitten by green mamba snake

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (BP)—Southern Baptists were called to urgent prayer Oct. 16 for Mozambique missionary John Dina, who was bitten by a deadly green mamba snake that afternoon.

Dina, an Arizona native who turned 34 Oct. 12, has reported tremendous response to the gospel in Zambezia province, where he serves as a general evangelist, said James Westmoreland, associate director of Foreign Mission Board work in southern Africa.

Dina was out in the bush country near his home in Quelimane when he was attacked by the snake, a member of one of several deadly species found in southern Africa, Westmoreland said.

The snake bit Dina on the leg and then chased after him.

Notified of the attack, South Africa missionary Martha McAlister and Foreign Mission Board missionary health director Van Williams began immediate efforts to rush anti-venom serum to. Mozambique and transport Dina to a Johannesburg hospital.

STAFF CHANGES

HOMECOMINGS

Shiloh (Marion): Oct. 27

Sunday School, 10 a.m.; worship, 11 a.m.; dinner in fellow-ship hall following morning

service; Doug Benedict, director of missions for Lamar

Association, guest speaker;

Good Hope, Lena: Oct. 27;

Oak Grove, Philadelphia: Oct. 27; 104th anniversary; 10:30 a.m.; noon meal; Bill

Marler.

11 a.m.; noon meal; 1:30 p.m.

Parkes

Harperville, interim pastor,

Causey, executive director-treasurer, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, guest speak-

Pleasant Hill, Carthage:

Oct. 27; 11 a.m.; noon meal; 1:30

p.m. singing; Bond of Faith;

guest singers; Martis Jenkins, guest speaker; Paul Cain, pas-

Pearl Valley (Copiah): Nov. 3; Sunday School, 10 a.m.; wor-

ship, 11 a.m.; noon meal; after-

noon singing and testimony time, 2 p.m.; David Langston,

pastor, speaker.

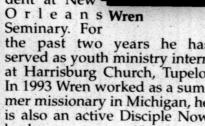
er; Paul H. Leber Sr., pastor.

Mack Carney, pastor.

singing;

speaker.

Church, Wren as minister of youth.



Andersonville

Doty Chapel, Shannon, has called Micah Carter as minister of music and youth effective Oct. 6. He is a ministerial student at Blue Mountain College. . Shawn Kinsey is pastor of Doty Chapel.

Center Grove Church, Oktibbeha County, has called Jack Teer as pastor effective Sept. 1. A native of Birmingham, Ala., he is a graduate of New Orleans Seminary. His previous place is service Hillcrest Church, Hammond, La.

Crystal Springs, has called **Eddie** He is a second year stu-

dent at New the past two years he has served as youth ministry intern at Harrisburg Church, Tupelo. In 1993 Wren worked as a summer missionary in Michigan, he is also an active Disciple Now

Highland Church, Crystal Springs, has called Mike Fort as pastor effective Oct. 13. A native of Waco, Texas, he received his education at International Bible College and Baptist Seminary, both located in Camellia, Ga. His previous place of service was Calvary Church, Natchez.

Urgent prayer requests for Dina were posted on the board's toll-free prayer line and CompassionNet electronic prayer network.

Dina was in intensive care at

the Johannesburg hospital on the morning of October 17, Westmoreland said.

The first 48 hours after such a bite are critical, doctors said, and Dina at that point was halfway through the time period.

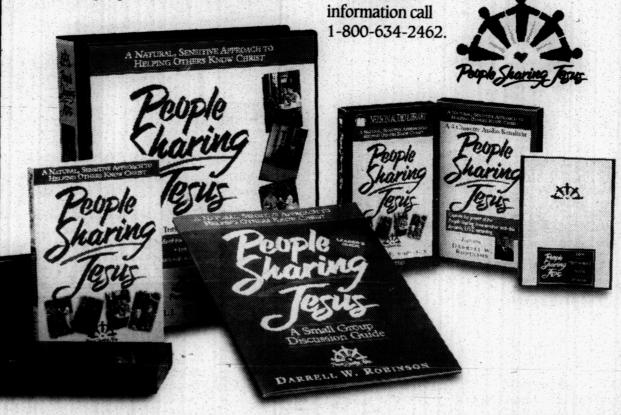
The fact he received the serum quickly and was evacuated promptly improved his chances- for survival, they

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44Darrell Robinson, whose pastor's heart is clear and resounding, has expressed most helpfully in this book the basic features of a spontaneous witness for our living Lord." - Henry T. Blackaby, Author, Experiencing God

BAPTIST COLLEGE NEWS



Blue Mountian College student Micah Carter receives the William Clawson Scholarship from David Millican of the Board of Ministerial Education. Carter, a junior ministerial student, is from Memphis. The William Clawson Scholarship is given to a ministerial student at one of the three Baptist Colleges on a rotating basis. The fund was established by the Board of Ministerial Education with the Mississippi Baptist Foundation in 1987 in honor of the long-time chair of the Bible department at William Carey College.

Homecoming Weekend 1996 at Mississippi College will be held Nov. 1-2. The weekend will get underway on Friday with the D.M. Nelson-Aubrey McLemore Golf Tournament at 1 p.m. at Shady Oaks Country Club. A Follies program is set for 6:30 p.m. in Swor Auditorium. Saturday activities begin with registration in the Student Center, followed by class reunions, service and social groups meetings, and the annual Homecoming Awards Luncheon. Kickoff is set for 6 p.m. for the football game between the Chocs and Austin College.

George Dale ('62), commissioner of insurance for the state of Mississippi; J. Hardee Kennedy ('39), an outstanding theologian educator; and Charles E. Martin ('51), an educator and recently retired as vice-president of academic affairs at Mississippi College;

will be honored with the prestigious "Order of the Golden Arrow" award. The presentations will be made during the annual Alumni Luncheon scheduled for Homecoming Day, Nov. 2, in A.E. Wood Coliseum.

Connie S. McCaa of Brandon has been selected to receive the 1996 Mississippi College "Alumnus of the Year" award (the highest honor given by the National Alumni Association) during the annual Awards Luncheon on Homecoming Day, Nov. 2, in A.E. Wood Coliseum. A native of Lexington, McCaa is presently serving as chief of staff and director of corneal and external disease services at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson.

Johnny L. Byrd ('54), Jimmy Dale Hays ('66), Richard Wayne Herzog ('73), and George Thames ('63) will be inducted into the Mississippi College Sports Hall of Fame. The induction will be made during the Alumni Luncheon, Homecoming Day, Nov. 2, in the A.E. Wood Coliseum. Byrd, of Jackson, earned letters in football, basketball, track, baseball, and tennis. Hayes, of Flora, lettered in football and track. Herzog, of State University, Ark., was a four-year letterman as a wide receiver.

The Mississippi College "M" Club will present its Distinguished Service Award to John and Charlotte McMath, ('77, '80) on Homecoming Day, Nov. 2, at the A.E. Wood Coliseum. The McMaths, of Clinton, are professors of mathematics at Mississippi College.

The Mississippi College Office of Continuing Education will offer a workshop on "The Vulnerable Adults Act" scheduled for Nov. 12 and 13, from 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. The conference is for hospital administrators, nursing home

directors, directors of nursing, and medical care givers. The conference is sponsored by the Office of the Attorney General, the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit, Mississippi Protection and Advocacy System, the Rankin Medical Center, and the Rankin County Coroner's Office. To register (deadline for pre-registration is Nov. 1) call (601) 925-3263).

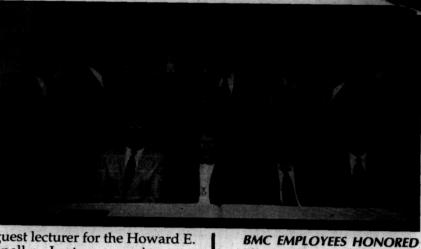
The Mississippi College Office Continuing of Education is offering a variety of workshops and seminars that will be of interests to adults and are offered as evening classes, while some are available on weekends. The dates and times of the workshops and seminars are: "A Guide to 401k Plans," Nov. 19, 6:30-9 p.m.; Aquatic Wellness, various schedules; Calligraphy, Oct. 29, Nov. 5, 12, 19, and 26 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.; The Senior Adult Education Program (SAEP) offers "over 50" students the opportunity to explore a new discipline, acquire a needed skill, or refresh their knowledge in a subject previously studied.

Mississippi College will hold its annual Fall Preview Day on Friday, Nov. 8. The day's activities will begin with registration and breakfast at 8 a.m. at the B.C. Rogers Student Center, followed by an opportunity for students to attend a class of their choice while their parents attend a financial aid/admissions workshop. For reservations, contact the Mississippi College Office of Admissions at 1-800-738-1236.

David Samuel Dockery, president of Union University and noted author, will be the guest lecturer for the Howard E. Spell Lecture series at Mississippi College scheduled for Monday, Nov. 4. Dockery will speak to students during the Monday chapel program at 10 a.m. in Swor Auditorium. He is scheduled to lecture on Monday evening to faculty, church vocation related majors, and other interested persons. His topic will be "Changes in Higher Education in the 21st Century that would impact the Church." The lecture will begin at 7 p.m. in the Hall of Fame Room of the B.C. Rogers Student Center.

and the resonance of the

William Carey College (WCC) students recently attended the "Innovative Ministries for the 21st Century" conference, conducted by Carl Barrington. Innovative Ministries is a program designed to teach college students how to use their academic degrees even though their degrees are not in mission-related or religion fields. "Over 1000 churches and agencies throughout the United States need people to go where others can or will not go," said Barrington, associate director of the Missions Service Corps at the Home Mission Board.



— The Board of Trustees of Blue Mountian College (BMC) and the Education Commission of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board (MBCB) honored employees with 30 or more years of service at a dinner held in Tupelo on Oct. 4. Pictured are (front row from the left) Carolyn Mounce, James L. Travis, Ruby Powell, Walter Rodgers, Ed Ludlow; (back row from the left) Harold Fisher, President of BMC; Bill Washburn, Sarah Washburn, Mary Dean Hollis, Carl Benson, Charles H. Cook, Johnnie Armstrong, Perry

from the left) Harold Fisher, President of BMC; Bill Washburn, Sarah Washburn, Mary Dean Hollis, Carl Benson, Charles H. Cook, Johnnie Armstrong, Perry Malone, Bill Causey, executive director-treasurer MBCB; Jim Phillips, Education Commission. These honorees represent a total of 474 years of service at Blue Mountian College.

Neshoba church sets 150th

Old Pearl Valley Church, Philadelphia, will observe its 150th anniversary on Oct. 26 and 27. Guest speaker for 11 a.m. service on Sunday will be Wade Chappell, former pastor. Guest speaker for 6 p.m. service on Saturday will be Jammie Tynes, former pastor. Meals will be served both days in fellowship hall. Don Buckner is interim pastor.

JUST FOR THE RECORD

Green's Creek Church, Petal, will hold its annual Love Your Church Day on Oct. 27. Events of the day will include Sunday School at 8:45 a.m., worship, 10 a.m., meal at 6 p.m.; and the Bibletones in concert at 7 p.m. Mike Routon is pastor. Mark King serves as the music director.

Pearson Church, Pearl, will host a fall festival, Oct. 26, from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wayne Long is pastor. For more information, call Pearson Church at (601) 939-3618.

Newsong will be in concert with a full band, along with special guest Erin O'Donnell at Harperville Church, Harperville, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. This is the second of two concerts, Sunday night concert is already full. Call (601) 469-4480 for more information and to make reservations for Monday night.

Several churches in North Calhoun County are participating in a tent revival, Nov. 3-8. Services will be at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Bill Cox, pastor of Spring Hill Church, Tallahatchie County, will be the evangelist. Directors of music will be Max Price during the morning services and Dennis Murphree during the evening services. A pizza supper will be held at 6 p.m. for youth on Thursday. The tent will be located on Hwy 32 east of Bruce at Calvary Church and Mt. Moriah Road. For more information, contact Thomas Morris at (601) 983-4516.

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FAMILY BIBLE SERIES

formerly Convention Uniform Series

Accepting responsibility

Ezekiel 18: 1-5, 7-13, 19-20

A number of months ago I found myself glued to one of those police shows that includes live video footage of actual events on the beat. In this particular incident, a man in his twenties had been arrested "again" for some particular crime. He was taking advantage of his one phone call by calling for his mother to come and pay his bail. She refused, and right there before God, the desk sergeant and everybody else he commenced to cuss her out over the phone. He could not believe that she perhaps had finally drawn the line over his wayward ways. Apparently on other numerous times good mom had come to the rescue, but not any more.

There comes the time for all of

us when we learn that being we're held responsible for our own conduct. In this week's

lesson, Israel is getting just such a message. Along with Ezekiel, the Israelites find themselves in Babylon suffering for the sins their forefathers had committed. They had well used the proverb declared in their nations' history that stated, "The fathers have eaten sour grapes, and their children's teeth are set on edge." (v. 2). In other words, due to the sins of those who came before, the people were now suffering their consequences in exile. Ezekiel was called on to announce that God was breaking that cycle of sinning, blaming others and sinning again (vv. 3-4). The bottom



Jim Phillips

line was that "The one who sins is the one who will die" (v. 4).

The up side of Ezekiel's message was that there was still a choice to be made because the man, woman or child who chooses righteousness, can be fully alive (v. 9).

Those blaming others for their plight are doomed to self destruction. Are you prone to lay your bad habits or sins off on the influence of another? Do you

say something like, "If I only had different parents" or "If it weren't for this town" or "If I were only bettter off." We all have to come to the same conclusion that God holds us responsible for our own

There also comes the difficult time when a parent can no longer carry the guilt of a wayward child. More than once in eighteen years of ministry I have had to try and help remove the sins of a wayward child off his or her mother. The day arrives when we have to give our children over to their own outcome and God will then remove their actions from personal responsibility (vv.10-13). It doesn't mean that we don't love them any less or are not continually burdened for them, it does however mean that they should now expect to receive the consequences for their own actions.

God was going on record that he was now holding Israel fully responsible for their own future. He was declaring that the day had arrived for the children to break away from the failures of their parents. The time had come to choose God for themselves or deny him and suffer the conse-

quences (vv. 14-17).

Ezekiel closes the chapter on a positive note. He goes on to hold out God's call to personal repentance and responsibility (vv. 30-32). Acknowledging our own sin, as well as coming to God for the cure, is the only way to live rightly before God. It was when the prodigal son announced to himself that his own bad decisions had gotten him away from his loving father, that he was able to admit his failure and go home (Luke 15:17-20).

Are you overcome with guilt over your own failure to admit personal sin? Have you played, the game that it's someone elses fault for where you find yourself today? Is there a child in your life that causes you grief and keeps you from being all God intended you to be? Do your children suffer from the consequences of your personal sins or habits? All of these are offered the free grace of God in Christ Jesus as the only way to get our hearts right before him. If there is some way to make past failures turn around for the benefit of another, God can do that. If there is personal sin that you've blamed on another, God too can handle that. Be responsible for you! As you do that, God can and will direct his power and purposes toward healing relationships that have suffered due to your own failures.

Phillips is pastor, North Greenwood Church, Greenwood.

EXPLORE THE BIBLE

formerly the Bible Book Series

Excelling in righteousness

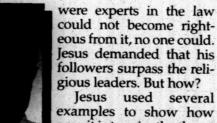
Matthew 5: 17-48

One temptation of religion is to demand that the faithful always interpret sacred writings literally. Legalism often follows this approach, and the mysterious rélationship between God and his creation then is reduced to a code which, when followed, is taken as sufficient to please God. This approach also lends itself to abuse by authorities who reserve for themselves the right to interpret the codified rules for everyone else.

Jesus upset many legal-minded religious leaders during his time, for he interpreted the Hebrew Bible in ways that were unorthodox. He tried to teach the leaders of Israel that keeping a list of rules gives no relationship with God. Rather than

concentrating on rules, Jesus tried to help his followers look for what lay behind the rules. He tried to get them to cultivate attitudes that would please God in addition to actions that pleased God.

Jesus warned his hearers that he was not trying to destroy the law by interpreting it. He was trying to fulfil the law. He was trying to help people to see how they had been missing the point of the law. He warned them that righteousness could not come from the law. If the scribes and Pharisees who



Ronald Bishop

Jesus demanded that his followers surpass the religious leaders. But how? Jesus used several examples to show how easy it is to miss the thrust

of the Bible. For instance, many people were quite satisfied with themselves for having never committed murder. Jesus challenged their satisfaction, asking whether they

had ever been guilty of anger, the sin that lies at the root of murder. Anyone who can deal with the difficult problem of anger surely can deal with the easier problem of murder. God is not happy with us when we harbor anger against

other people.

Jesus also frequently met people who were satisfied with themselves that they had never committed adultery. It was rather easy for men to avoid adultery in

his day, for having concubines or mistresses was not generally considered adultery. Men could have several women and still not commit adultery. Yet Jesus suggested that many of them had harbored lust for wives of other men, the root of adultery. Jesus warned them not to be proud until they had eliminated lust from their hearts. Then adultery would not

be a problem. Jesus also addressed the problem of divorce. It was easy for a man to dispose of a wife that no longer pleased him. He simply had to release her with a divorce certificate. Many men were proud of the legal way they had dumped wives, thinking they were completely free from blame. Jesus warned that the contemporary divorce system was a disgrace, for it abused the rights of women who naturally found it hard to survive in a world dominated by men.

People also frequently would

use oaths in order to misrepresent the truth if they wanted. It was thought that as long as one did not swear falsely by God or heaven that everything was alright. Jesus demanded that his followers be the type of people who do not need to swear, but whose word is trusted simply because of who originated it.

Jesus also commanded his followers not to fall into the trap of repaying evil with evil. This practice simply perpetuates evil. Instead, Christians should give in when necessary. Suffer wrong sometimes. Offer to serve others and avoid conflict. Pray for those who abuse you, knowing that God will reward you and he alone will repay the evil that you suffer.

Jesus called Christians not to live by the letter of the law, but to surpass the law. Nothing less will please God.

Bishop teaches philosophy and religion at Jones County Junior College, Ellisville.

LIFE AND WORK

What's in a-name?

Ex. 20; Mal. 1; Luke 11; Jas. 3

God's Word teaches his name is to be honored in attitude, behavior, and speech. When God's name is honored, you will give God your best, pray with reverence, and speak with integrity. The old saying states: "Your actions speak so loud that I can't hear what you are saying." Thus, all of our lifestyle, not just our speech, reflects our relationship to God.

To narrow the meaning of the commandment: "You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain" to apply only to speech is to miss the full meaning. The fact of Jesus being in believers should mean we desire to honor Him and to bear fruit.

Honor God's name (Ex. 20:7).

The name of a person is the identification of the person. To honor God's name has a much deeper meaning Cynthia Douglas

than just avoiding profanity. "In vain" means insincere, empty, and groundless. So using God's name, when there is no faith or commitment on the part of the user, is to break this commandment.

When we profess to be Christians and at the same time live a self-centered, materialistic lifestyle, we are breaking this commandment. God is honored in our lives when we place our faith in him, obey his teachings, and live each day in service to him.



(Mal.1:10-14). How does what I give to God relate to how I honor his name? Malachi said the Israelites profaned God's name by offering less than the best in their sacrifices. By they cheating God, they revealed their lack of respect for God. The name of God is referred to several times in this passage and the conclusion says:

"My name is to be feared among the nations."

God's goal for all of creation is for people to worship him. He is the King of Kings. Our gifts to him express our love and commitment to him. God desires pure worship, as shown in his condemnation of the impure sacrifices in verses 10-14. Our motives and our actions need to be spotless. Are you giving your best in time, energy, tithes, and

Pray with reverence (Luke Give God your best 11:2). The disciples asked Jesus

to teach them how to pray. Jesus began the prayer with "Father, hallowed be thy name." Hallowed stresses the awe and respect which belong to God. He alone is holy. It is the unique attribute of God. God desires for us to approach him in prayer but he must be approached in awe and reverence. The holiness of God reminds us that God is God and we are his creation.

Jesus addresses God as Father. he wonderful news for believ ers is God is also our Father. Because of this relationship, he cares for us and wants us to spend time in prayer with him. God is a caring and loving Father who desires the praise and awe of his creation. Is your prayer life a meaningful communication with God or is it just a religious habit? Do you always give God the honor which is his? Genuine prayer begins with focusing on the character and attributes of God. One way to honor God and

his name is to always pray with reverence.

Speak with integrity (Jas. 3:9-11). James spoke sternly to those who praised God with the same tongue they used to curse their fellowmen who are made in God's likeness. James says this should not be done! Believers honor God's name when they love others and treat them with respect. All speech should be pleasing to God and never harmful to the very ones God created. Do you speak with integrity and love concerning your fellowman? Do you ask God daily to guide you in your speech so it will only reflect his great love? What's in a name? Zechariah 14:9 says: "The Lord will be king over the whole earth. On that day there will be one Lord, and his name the only name." Praise his holy name!

Douglas is a member of First Church, Columbus.

1996 MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

161st Session • October 29-30 First Baptist Church, Jackson



WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30

7:00 a.m.	Clarke College Alumni fellowship break- fast, fellowship hall, FBC
	 Bivocational Ministers and Wives break- fast fellowship, Baptist Building chapel
8:00	Registration opens second floor above State Street entrance, FBC
8:36	• Session 4, Mississippi Baptist
	Convention, FBC Sanctuary
11:30	 Adjournment of the 1996 Mississippi Baptist Convention
11:45	 Post-Convention Meeting of the MBCB, Baptist Building chapel

X

	MONDAY, OCTOBER 28
9:00 a.m.	MBCB Committees, various locations
10:00	MBCB meeting, Baptist Building, Skyroom
11:30	 Mississippi Baptist Religious Education Association luncheon, Colonial Heights Church, Jackson
NOON	• Registration opens second floor above State Street entrance, FBC, Jackson
1:00 p.m.	 Session 1 of the 1996 Pastor's Conference, FBC Sanctuary Ministers' Wives Conference, FBC Jackson
3:00	• Lay Missions Conference, FBC Jackson
5:00	• Lay Missions Conference Banquet, fellowship hall, FBC, Jackson
6:16	•Session 2 of the 1996 Pastor's Conference, FBC Sanctuary

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 29

	JI CESEAT, OCTOBER 25
7:30 a.m.	Annuitants Fellowship annual breakfast, fellowship hall east, FBC Mississippi College Christian Service Alumni breakfast, fellowship hall east, FBC
8:00	• Registration opens second floor above State Street entrance, FBC
8:35	• Session 1, Mississippi Baptist Convention, FBC Sanctuary
10:00	• Health Screening Clinic, FBC chapel dining room
11:45	Mid-America Seminary alumni association luncheon, Coliseum Ramada Inn
NOON	 New Orleans Seminary alumni luncheon, fellowship hall east, FBC Southern Seminary alumni luncheon, Baptist Building, Skyroom Southwestern Seminary alumni luncheon, Calvary Church
1:40 p.m.	• Session 2, Mississippi Baptist Convention, FBC Sanctuary
4:30	Chaplain's Banquet, Baptist Building, Skyroom
5:00	• Luther Rice alumni meeting, Shoney's on High Street
5:15	Blue Mountain ministerial alumni banquet, Broadmoor Church
6:35	Session 3, Mississippi Baptist Convention, FBC Sanctuary
8:45	William Carey College Alumni fellowship, Baptist Building chapel

Missionaries recount victory in midst of conflict

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Few Southern Baptists awake with a pit viper wrapped around their ankle, or survive

its lethal bite. Not many walk away from plane crashes. Hardly any try to sleep to the crackle of revolutionary gun-fire. Rarely do they face arrest, interrogation, intimidation, burglary, beatings or worse.

Eighty-eight retiring Foreign Mission Board missionaries, experihowever, enced such calamities during 2,287 combined years of ministry. They were honored Oct. 6 during a service in Richmond, Va., at Derbyshire Church.

"What sustained you in these hardships?" asked board President Jerry Rankin. "What compelled you to remain at the task?"

From missionaries who poke in the service, the answer was the same: God's call to share his love with a physically hurting and spiritually dying world.

For Gene and Jean Phillips, it was, in Jean's words, "God's wonderful, marvelous, heart peace" that helped plant churches during the horrible events of a 12-year civil war in the former Rhodesia, now Zimbabwe and Zambia.

County native and Mississippi College graduate and his wife Virginia, sharing Christ's friendship in the Middle East with a people said to have no friends in a nation hostile to Christianity — drilling wells, planting seeds, giving shelter — provided the most "enerdangerous, vating, rewarding years" of their

career. Nancie Wingotaught English at two Baptist institutions amid sometimes-terrifying social and political circum stances

Wingo

around her in Lebanon and

Wingo recalled long nights, huddling with Muslim neighbors in the basement of her West Beirut apartment building and waiting for the night's final bonerattling blast from artillery shells lobbed by warring militias.

"We made no political or religious distinctions in that basement. We all looked out for each other," she said.
Although their parents

were at war, students would return to school after a cease fire, kiss each other and say, "Praise God for your safety," Wingo recounted.

In 1987 the U.S. government ordered Americans to leave Lebanon, so Wingo transferred to Gaza to teach

For Paul Smith a Lawrence nursing students English at the Baptist hospital.

She didn't find the same camaraderie there. Instead she found acrimony.

Ministry became even more difficult when in December 1987 — nine months after she arrived in Gaza — the six-year Palestinian Intifada began.

Intifada is translated "uprising," but the full Arabic meaning refers to the way a wet dog stands and shakes off water from its fur.

"Those I taught were born under Israeli occupation. They didn't respect my authority, because my homeland gives Israel billions of dollars," Wingo said.

Despite the students' insolence, reflected in deeds Wingo said are too embarrassing to mention, she found a way to stay and make an impact.

'I realized I was in Gaza for Gazans, and not necessarily just to teach English. So when they sensed I cared for them as individuals, then everything turned around.

"They looked upon me as one who really wanted to help them get a nursing certifi-cate," she said.

Increasing peer and religious pressure from the Intifada strained fragile rela-

Students who once lingered after Sunday Bible study to talk with Wingo about Christianity were forced to stop.

"When Israel closes the border, it's easy for (Muslim) religious leaders to control the Like Christians, people. Muslims believe if they fervently practice their faith, God will bless them in their struggles and give them victory."

Personal ministry became even more difficult.

Showing loyalty to the Intifada, and obeying Islamic doctrines, students obeying who once were very cordial treated Wingo as if she had a disease.

The ground she'd gained was lost, but not completely.

Wingo and the missionaries she worked with placed an ad in a newspaper that offered a free copy of the "Jesus" film.

"We got many, many, many letters in response to that ad. The Palestinian people are very interested in God that's a very common topic for discussion.

Whether suffering through Palestinian disdain for being a United States citizen or being ostracized for religious reasons, Wingo and her fellow missionaries found the motivation to continue sharing God's love.

"When I realized missionaries are God's good and wonderful gift to the needy people of Gaza, I had the perspective that kept me there," Wingo said. "The wars of the Middle

East are the work of men. But the good and perfect gifts are the work of God."

La. judge rules against conservatives in lawsuit

Bibliocipher A Louisiana judge has ruled a lawsuit filed by four Louisiana College professors against the "Louisiana Baptist Conservative Resurgency" group may HR KRT IVWEXWT UEO

proceed. The professors' lawsuit challenges what they claim are defamatory and derogatory statements meant to harm their professional and moral reputations.

However, the lead attorney for the Louisiana Baptist Conservative Resurgency said he disagrees with Yeager, who issued the ruling the last week of September, and his clients will appeal the ruling on that issue.

"This is a legal conclusion that we think is incorrect," Dale Smith of Pineville, La., said. "We feel the judge too narrowly defined what a church is."

The plaintiffs contend Hyatt and others issued "malicious and derogatory" statements in an attempt "to wrongfully expose the plaintiffs to ridicule,

ALEXANDRIA, La. (BP) - contempt, and hatred, as well as further seek to deprive them of public confidence."

A lawsuit is a legal statement of grievances against a defendant and must be proved

According to the lawsuit, the letters distributed by the conservative group allege the plaintiffs taught in violation of traditional Christian values, assigned and exposed students to pornographic materials, accepted homosexuality as an alternative justified lifestyle, approved of sexual impurity, engaged in or approved of displays of nualty, condoned the use of profanity, disparaged the sanctity of human life, declined to recognize the divine inspiration of the Bible, saw the Bible as no more significant than other books on religion, expressed disbelief in biblical miracles and departed from the biblical and moral roots held by most Louisiana Baptists.



Minister of Counseling First Church, Jackson

My boyfriend says I should be a part of the "community of faith" and not restrict myself to Christianity. Is that a good idea?

The fact that you are unsure whether this is a good idea indicates that you have doubts. You cannot throw out your Christian beliefs because of your relationship with this man. I recently returned from Asia, where I saw firsthand how the profusion of temples to so many forms of gods creates confusion and leaves followers unsure that they are doing enough to curry favor with the gods. We know that our God is a God of peace, not confusion (1 Cor. 14:33). You should ask yourself why your boyfriend wants you to do something that is obviously going to create more problems than peace. To encourage this kind of "diversity" should be a red flag in front of your face. What else is he asking you to do?

My son died of a drug overdose, and I'm confused about the age of accountability. Did he go to Heaven?

Heaven is a free gift we receive when we ask Jesus Christ in our hearts. The age of accountability comes when a child begins to understand right from wrong and make decisions for themselves - usually around the age of six. When your son heard the gospel, did he ask Jesus into his heart? If you witnessed such a profession of faith, be assured based on Romans 10:13. If not, your son could have made his profession outside your presence, so you'll simply have to wait until you get to Heaven to find out. Your son was given the opportunity to call upon the Lord; what he did with the opportunity was his decision. Don't allow feelings of guilt to undermine your soul. Look to the Father and allow him to minister to your grief.

Send your counseling questions to LifeAnswers c/o The Baptist Record, P.O. Box 530, lackson, MS 39205-0530. Please be brief. Name is not required. Remember: in time of crisis, your pastor can make recommendations on your counseling needs.

Clue: R equals O

SHARING THE VISION -

Retiring Foreign Mission Board

missionaries Ron and Betty

Hartell have plenty of time now to

tell grandsons Drew (left) and

Jordan about life in Africa.

Bedding down to the sounds of

nighttime gunfire in Uganda,

working by candlelight in

Tanzania, attending church under

a tree in Zambia, being ques-

tioned for importing a glue gun

into Ethiopia -- these are glimpses

of their missionary career. The

Hartells and 86 other retiring for-

eign missionaries were honored Oct 6 during a service in Richmond, Va., at Derbyshire Baptist Church. (BP photo by

By Charles Marx

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AW

KWOWHSH ROW:

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ASU;

NWUEBW

Sandy King)

IVWEXWT

UEBW

Have fun with cryptography and exercise your Bible knowledge. A King James Version Bible verse has been encoded by letter substitution. The same letter is substituted throughout the puzzle. Solve by trial and error. Answer to last Revelation week's puzzle: Twenty-Two Sixteen

BAPTIST RECORD